

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
Case No. 18 CVS 014001

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COMES NOW Legislative Defendants, pursuant to the Court's September 3, 2019, Order, and submits the names and qualifications of the referees they believe should be appointed to assist the Court. Accordingly, Legislative Defendants provide the Court the following:

1. Legislative Defendants suggest that the Court appoint both Gerry Cohen and Art Pope to serve as co-referees to assist the Court in this matter.

2. These individuals, Democratic and Republican respectively, would form a bipartisan referee which would instill public confidence in any remedial plans approved or created by the Court. Mr. Cohen and Mr. Pope's participation together in this process ensures a balanced approach to review of legislative plans.

3. Mr. Cohen served almost four decades at the legislature in various counsel roles to the General Assembly. He acted as the primary bill drafter during much of his time in the General Assembly and is extremely well versed in election law and redistricting. He currently continues to serve North Carolinians as an appointed member of the Wake County Board of Elections. Likewise, Art Pope is a former North Carolina legislator who has significant experience with redistricting and has dedicated much of his life to public service in North Carolina. He also recently

endorsed House Bill 140, Fairness and Integrity in Redistricting, which seeks to remove partisanship from the State's redistricting process. See <https://www.carolinajournal.com/news-article/second-redistricting-reform-bill-emphasizes-rules-and-transparency/>.

4. Republican and Democratic co-referees should be appointed in this matter to ensure that all North Carolina voters, no matter their political preferences, have confidence in any remedial plans approved or drawn by the Court. Mr. Cohen and Mr. Pope, both long-term public servants in this State, are uniquely suited to serve as referees in this matter while simultaneously ensuring fairness to both Democratic and Republican voters in North Carolina.

WHEREFORE, Legislative Defendants respectfully request that the Court appoint Gerry Cohen and Art Pope as referees in this matter pursuant to its September 3, 2019 Order.

This 6th day of September 2019

BAKER & HOSTETLER, LLP

E. Mark Braden*
(DC Bar #419915)
Katherine L. McKnight*
(DC Bar #994456)
Trevor M. Stanley*
(VA Bar# 77351)
mbraden@bakerlaw.com
kmcknight@bakerlaw.com
tstanley@bakerlaw.com
Washington Square, Suite 1100
1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036-5403
Telephone: (202) 861-1500
Facsimile: (202) 861-1783

Patrick T. Lewis*
(OH Bar # 0078314)
127 Public Square, Suite 2000
plewise@bakerlaw.com
Cleveland, OH 44114-1214
Telephone: (216) 621-0200
Facsimile: (216) 696-0740

Robert J. Tucker*
(OH Bar # 0082205)
Erika Dackin Prouty
(OH Bar # 0095821)
rtucker@bakerlaw.com
eprouty@bakerlaw.com
200 Civic Center Drive, Suite 1200
Columbus, OH 43215-4138
Telephone: (614) 228-1541
Facsimile (614) 462-2616

Respectfully submitted,

OGLETREE, DEAKINS, NASH, SMOAK &
STEWART, P.C.

By: /s/ Phillip J. Strach
Phillip J. Strach
N.C. State Bar No. 29456
Thomas A. Farr
N.C. State Bar No. 10871
Michael McKnight
N.C. State Bar No. 36932
N.C. State Bar No. 36932
phil.strach@ogletreedeakins.com
tom.farr@ogletreedeakins.com
michael.McKnight@ogletreedeakins.com
4208 Six Forks Road, Suite 1100
Raleigh, North Carolina 27609
Telephone: (919) 787-9700
Facsimile: (919) 783-9412

* Admitted *pro hac vice*

Counsel for the Legislative Defendants

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that the undersigned has this day served the foregoing in the above titled action upon all other parties to this cause by email transmittal to the following:

Edwin M. Speas, Jr.
Caroline P. Mackie
P.O. Box 1801
Raleigh, NC 27602-1801
(919) 783-6400
espeas@poynerspruill.com

*Counsel for Common Cause, the North
Carolina Democratic Party, and the
Individual Plaintiffs*

John E. Branch, III
Nate Pencook
128 E. Hargett St, Suite 300
Raleigh, NC 27601
(919)856-9494
jbranch@shanahanlawgroup.com

Counsel for the Intervenor-Defendants

R. Stanton Jones
David P. Gersch
Elisabeth S. Theodore
Daniel F. Jacobson
601 Massachusetts Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20001-3761
(202) 942-5000
Stanton.jones@arnoldporter. Com

Marc E. Elias
Aria C. Branch
700 13 th Street NW
Washington, DC 20005-3960
(202) 654-6200
melias@perkinscoie.com

Abha Khanna
1201 Third Avenue
Suite 4900
Seattle, WA 98101-3099
(206) 359-8000

*Counsel for Common and the Individual
Plaintiffs*

This 6th day of September, 2019.

By: /s/ Phillip J. Strach
Phillip J. Strach, N.C. State Bar No. 29456

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